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APR 1981

DD/A Registry

81-119.8

OGC Has Reviewed

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Administration

VIA: Legal Advisor  
Headquarters Survey Review Board

DD/A REGISTRY

FILE: Reports

FROM: [REDACTED]  
Chairman, Headquarters Survey Review Board

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] Report of Survey, No. S-5832

REFERENCE: [REDACTED]

1. Action Requested: Subject survey, dated 16 August 1979, was submitted by the Accountable Officer at [REDACTED]. The report documented the loss of two Diablo printers valued at \$6,368. A recommendation for your approval is contained in paragraph 4. [REDACTED]

2. Background:

a. Four Diablo printers were originally purchased during 1974-75 and recorded on the OTS/Equipment Suitability Division (ESD) Consolidated Memorandum Receipt (CMR). They were subsequently transferred to OTS/Operations Support Division (OSD) and charged to the ALAB account. In 1977, the ALAB Responsible Officer accounted for the printers and recorded their locations as one (1) to GFE Applied Systems and three (3) each located in the [REDACTED] storage room. In July 1977, three of the printers were transferred from the ALAB account to the ALAE (Engineering Equipment) account.

b. In June 1978, the three printers were accounted for by [REDACTED] the ALAE Responsible Officer. [REDACTED] former ADC/OSD has also attested that three printers were in the [REDACTED] storage room in the spring of 1978.

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c. During an inventory conducted in April/May 1979, only one printer could be located. A physical search of all areas at [ ] by the Responsible and Accountable Officers as well as the Chief and Deputy Chief of OSD, failed to produce the two missing printers. Other OTS facilities including [ ] Covert Engineering Division (CED) [ ] OTS Training, and various offices in South Building were searched or approached regarding the whereabouts of the two missing printers with negative results.

d. In 1980, a second wall-to-wall inventory, taken since the discovery of the loss, also failed to locate the missing two printers.

e. The [ ] storage room where the missing printers were located is situated within the confines of the security perimeter fence which has a guard during working hours and is protected by a security alarm system during non-working hours. The room is used as a holding area for bulk equipment and supplies and is locked at all times with only staff personnel permitted access. Uncleared personnel are escorted within the area. While items may be removed from the room for use within the [ ] compound, they cannot be taken from [ ] without an authorized property pass signed by the Accountable Officer, Chief, OSD, or branch and deputy branch chiefs. [ ]

### 3. Staff Position:

a. Agency regulations are quite specific regarding the responsibility for the care and safekeeping of U.S. Government property whether in use or in storage. While [ ] was the Responsible Officer and had supervisory responsibility for all U.S. Government-owned property under his jurisdiction, other [ ] staff personnel had access to the locked room where the printers were stored. Thus the printers could have been removed from the storage room without the Responsible Officer's knowledge.

b. While the overall property accounting and control procedures in effect at [ ] seemed adequate at the time, it appeared that equipment being retained in storage may not have been subject to the same degree of supply discipline accorded non-expendable property in use. The apparent absence of identifying markings on stored equipment could have contributed to the misidentification of the printers which may have resulted in their subsequent disposal or reissue without documentary evidence. This situation has since been corrected.

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SUBJECT: [ ] Report of Survey, No. S-5832 [ ]

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c. It is virtually impossible to assess individual responsibility for the loss of the printers; and, while their loss is unexplainable, it is felt highly unlikely that these items were surreptitiously removed from the [ ] storage room due to the stringent security controls. It is more likely that their disappearance is due to unrecorded property transactions. The printers were not in the "personal appeal category" and were considered functionally obsolete as well as having no value except within a computer application. Implementation of the additional property controls referred to in the Accountable Officer's memorandum of 16 August 1979, should improve [ ] property management and preclude losses of this nature in the future. [ ]

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4. Recommendation: After reviewing the facts and actions taken by [ ] the Board concurs in the findings of the Survey Report and recommends that [ ] be relieved of pecuniary liability for the loss of the two Diablo printers and that [ ] establish strict procedures to ensure that accurate and current records are maintained for accountable property, both in use and in storage. If approved, this document will serve as the authority to drop accountability for the two Diablo printers. [ ]

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